

Amendments to the Specification

On pages 9-10, the bridging paragraph should be amended as follows:

In the brain, a protein known as bone morphogenic protein drives progenitor cells to differentiate into glial cells. Noggin is a developmental molecule which suppresses bone morphogenic protein in the brain. Without the influence of bone morphogenic protein, progenitor cells differentiate into ~~neurons rather than glial cells~~ glia cells rather than neurons. Thus, noggin acts to induce neuronal production through its suppression of endogenous bone morphogenic protein (Lim et al., "Noggin Antagonizes BMP Signaling To Create A Niche for Adult Neurogenesis," Neuron 28: 713-726 (2000); Zimmerman et al., "The Spemann Organizer Signal Noggin Binds and Inactivates Bone Morphogenetic Protein 4," Cell 86: 599-606 (1996), which are hereby incorporated by reference in their entirety). Therefore, the nucleic acid which encodes the neurotrophic factor noggin is suitable for use in the nucleic acid construct of the present invention.